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LETTER DATED 14 OCTOBER 1991 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF IRAQ TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

Acting on instructions from my Government, I should like to inform you that, on the night of 10/11 October 1991, Kuwaiti naval vessels entered Iraqi territorial waters and captured a number of Iraqi fishermen at the distance of one kilometre from Cape Al-Madinah al-Munwwarah in Khor Abdullah in the demilitarized zone between Iraq and Kuwait. The Kuwaiti vessels also captured another group of Iraqi fishermen in Iraqi territorial waters near the port of Al-Bakr, after opening fire on them and forcibly taking them into custody. The number of missing fishermen lies somewhere between 42 and 50.

This overt act on the part of the Kuwaiti authorities constitutes a shameful and blatant violation of the Charter of the United Nations and the provisions of international law and, furthermore, violates the provisions of the cease-fire between Iraq and Kuwait stipulated by the Security Council in resolution 687 (1991).

My Government holds the Kuwaiti Government fully responsible for the safety of the lives of all the Iraqi fishermen detained by the Kuwaiti authorities and demands that they be released and returned to Iraq immediately.

My Government, in informing you of these violations, requests you, in pursuance of the purposes and principles laid down in the Charter, to take the necessary measures to intervene with the Kuwaiti authorities for the return of the aforementioned Iraqi citizens to Iraq.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter distributed as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Abdul Amir A. AL-ANBARI
Ambassador
Permanent Representative